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BRIEFER ARTICLES

SOME PLANTS OF WESTERN AMERICA

Several collections of plants from western America have recently been submitted to the writer for identification, and among them a number have been found of especial interest, either because of their geographical distribution or because they represent species which apparently have not been described hitherto; these may be recorded and diagnosed as follows:

ROMANZOFFIA UNALASCHCENSIS Cham. in Nees. Hor. Phys. Berol. 72, *t. 14*, 1820.—Specimens collected on the northeast aspect of vertical cliffs, three feet above high sea-level, Albert Head, British Columbia, 6 June, 1907, *Dr. C. F. Newcombe*, no. 324 (hb. Field Museum, cat. no. 250181) correspond in all essential details with a part of the original material in the Gray Herbarium on which the above species was founded. This station extends the range of the species considerably south from previously recorded localities.

Castilleja arachnoidea, n. sp.—Herbacea perennis; caulibus caespitosis erectis 2–3 dm. altis in partibus inferioribus crispo-hirsutis, superioribus arachnoideo-tomentosis; foliis 1.5–4 cm. longis linearibus vel anguste lanceolatis et integris plerumque trifido, laciniis linearibus acutis patentibus, lobo intermedio majore et saepe trifidis; inflorescentiis terminalibus dense spicatis 10–13 cm. longis; bracteis plerumque trifidis, lobo intermedio integro et obtuso vel apice trilobulato; calyce 15–17 mm. longo extrinsecus piloso antice et postice subaequaliter fisso; lobis lateralibus profunde partitis, laciniis lineare-lanceolatis acutis 7–10 mm. longis; corolla 17–20 mm. longa extrinsecus pubescente flava vel lobis in sicco paululo rubellis; galea erecta circiter quadruplo brevior quam tubus; labium trilobum 5–6 mm. longum; capsula oblonga 10–12 mm. longa acuminata acuta glabra.

On mountain summits near Marble Mountain, Siskiyou County, Cal., altitude 2000 m., 6 August, 1908, *Geo. D. Butler*, no. 422 (hb. Field Museum, cat. no. 276765).

In general habit this species resembles *C. Lemmoni* Gray, *C. pilosa* (Gray) Rydb., *C. pratensis* Heller, and *C. oresbia* Greenm.; it also approaches *C. ambigua* Jones, but differs in having a shorter corolla and in the nature of the pubescence. The arachnoid tomentum, long dense spikes, and conspicuous long lower lip of the corolla are the striking characters of the species.

Castilleja schizotricha, n. sp.—Herbacea perennis tota planta substellato-albido-tomentosa; caulibus caespitosis simplicibus erectis vel ascendentibus 1–1.5 dm. altis; foliis lineari-lanceolatis et integris vel trifidis 1–1.5 cm. longis 2–5 mm. latis, laciniis linearibus acutis patentibus; inflorescentiis purpureis terminalibus dense spicatis 5–9 cm. longis; bracteis saepissime trifidis circiter 1.5 cm. longis, lobis lateralibus linearibus acutiusculis, lobo intermedio lanceolato-oblongo acuto; calyce 15–17 mm. longo extrinsecus substellato-albido-tomentoso et stipitato-glanduloso antice et postice aequaliter fisso, laciniis lateralibus profunde partitis lineari-attenuatis acutis dense substellato-tomentosis; corolla purpurea 15–17 mm. longa, galea erecta 4 mm. longa circiter quater brevior quam tubus, labio circiter 4 mm. longo basi triplicato, labii lobis lineari-oblongis 2 mm. longis obtusis; capsula oblonga 8–10 mm. longa brevi-acuminata acuta glabra.

On summit of mountain, near Wooly Creek, Siskiyou County, Cal., altitude 1830 m., 5 August, 1908, *Geo. D. Butler*, no. 423 (hb. Field Museum, cat. no. 276766).

The species here described is apparently most nearly related to *C. brachyantha* Rydb., *C. Covilleana* Hend., and *C. pilifera* Nels. From all these it is readily separated by the branched hairs and the characters of the calyx.

Senecio Suksdorfii, nom. nov.—*S. Adamsi* Howell, Fl. N.W. America **1**:379, 1903, not *S. Adamsii* Cheesm. Trans. N.Z. Inst. **28**:536, 1896. Mr. HOWELL'S specific name for this plant coincides so closely with the name given by Mr. CHEESEMAN to a New Zealand species of this genus that it seems desirable to give our American plant a new specific name; and the writer takes pleasure in associating therewith the name of Mr. W. N. SUKSDORF, who has done so much to further our knowledge of the plants of Washington.

Hereto are referred the following: on rocky ridges, Mt. Paddo (Adams), Washington, altitude about 2155 m., 9 August, 1882, *W. N. Suksdorf* (hb. Gray, hb. Geol. Surv. Canada, and hb. Field Museum); east of Mt. Adams, August, 1892, *L. F. Henderson*, no. 2309 (hb. Gray); Yakima region, 1883, *T. S. Brandegee*, no. 915 (hb. Gray); Indian Henry Park, September, 1909, *J. B. Tarleton*, no 62 (hb. Field Museum); at the base of granite cliffs, source of the Imnaha, Wallowa Mts., Oregon, altitude 2690 m., 14 August, 1906, *Wm. C. Cusick*, no. 3131 (hb. Field Museum); on Mt. Rose, Nevada, altitude 2970 m., 29 July, 1909, *A. A. Heller*, no. 9896 (hb. Field Museum).

Senecio (§AMPLECTENTES) **Websteri,** n. sp.—Herbaceus perennis; caulibus erectis vel ascendentibus 1.5–2 dm. altis parce floccoso-tomentulosis; foliis inferioribus petiolatis subovatis vel oblongo-obovatis 8–12 cm. longis 1.5–4.5 cm. latis acutis denticulatis vel sinuato-dentatis

basi decurrentibus membranaceis utrinque arachnoideo-tomentulosis plus minusve glabratis, petiolis alatis, foliis superioribus sessilibus lanceolatis irregulariter dentatis; pedunculis elongatis usque ad 8 cm. longis unicapitatis; capitulis 1.8–2 cm. altis multifloris radiatis subnutantibus; involucris campanulatis calyculatis; squamis involucri lineari-lanceolatis 13–15 mm. longis apice acutis penicillatis extrinsecus arachnoideo-tomentulosis; floribus femineis 12–15, ligulis lanceolato-oblongis 12–15 mm. longis 3–4 mm. latis flavis; floribus disci numerosis, corollis ca. 8.5 mm. longis; pappi setis albidis subaequantibus; achaeniis glabris.

On talus slopes of Mt. Angeles, Clallam County, Washington, altitude about 2000 m., 2 September, 1909, *E. B. Webster*, no. 109 (hb. Field Museum cat. no. 251971).

In habit *S. Websteri* is similar to *S. seridophyllus* Greene which, however, is glabrous throughout and has smaller heads and shorter rays. In foliar characters *S. Websteri* resembles *S. Elmeri* Piper, but differs in having much larger and solitary heads. Mr. E. B. WEBSTER of Port Angeles, by whom the specimens were collected, in commenting on the plant, states: "There are possibly a hundred plants in all, a few growing at the northern side of the base of one of the pinnacles, the remainder being scattered along the narrow rocky talus for possibly 1000 ft.; on the slope at the base of the pinnacle *Arnica cordifolia* Hook. and *Heuchera racemosa* Wats., both rare on Mt. Angeles, were associated with the *Senecio*, and somewhat lower down *Hedysarum occidentale* Greene and *Arabis Lyallii* Wats. were growing along with it."—J. M. GREENMAN, *Chicago.*

SOIL MOISTURE IN THE COTTONWOOD DUNE ASSOCIATION OF LAKE MICHIGAN

(WITH ONE FIGURE)

The following data regarding the range of soil moisture in the cottonwood dune association upon the shores of Lake Michigan seem to be of sufficient interest to warrant their publication in advance of the results of more extensive studies of the same sort now in progress. The work of COWLES[1] upon its general ecological relations and that of the writer[2] upon the evaporating power of the air have shown this to be an open association of a single tree species, together with a scanty undergrowth

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[1] COWLES, H. C., The ecological relations of the vegetation of the sand dunes of Lake Michigan. BOT. GAZ. **27**:95–391. 1899.

[2] FULLER, G. D., Evaporation and plant succession. BOT. GAZ. **52**:193–208. 1911.